

The 39th District conference provided an opportunity for Zontian enrichment. Enhanced knowledge of Zonta mission-oriented issues, sharing ideas about service projects, interacting and having fun with members of other clubs and participation in health screenings are just some of the benefits members stated they realized by attending the district conference. Be sure to read conference highlights provided by others in this newsletter.

It is hard, but fulfilling work for persons who were involved in the considerable detail required for conference planning. I greatly appreciate the efforts of the host club, the Zonta Club of Iron Mountain- Kingsford Area, the District Board, District Committee Chairs and others who contributed their time and skills for the conference.

I am particularly thankful for the cooperative Zonta spirit shown by some individuals who were willingly called into service at the last minute. Julie Dyer (Zonta Club of Cadillac) led and provided a quick tutorial to Marquette Senior High School Z Club members for the presentation and posting of the flags when the designated Girl Scout Troop was unable to provide this service. Paula Somerville (Zonta Club of Southfield) and Lucy Contois (Zonta Club of Marquette) gathered "intelligence" for and prepared the Courtesy Resolutions. Sadly a family member of the Courtesy Resolutions Committee Chair, Mary Gilson (Zonta Club of Lenawee Area), died so she was unable to attend the conference.

The conference provided an ideal opportunity for me to unveil and launch my goals for the district and to address the two areas about which I would like the district to focus in this biennium. Most of the conference program was related to these goals as well as the two areas of focus – violence against women and women's health. Details on some of the implementation actions which have been/will be taken can be viewed in the "Governor's Corner" on the district website www.zonta15.org I welcome the receipt of any additional recommendations for implementing the goals. The goals can be best achieved if members and clubs as well as the District Board and District committees work toward implementing them, so I encourage your assistance in this regard.

The following goals have been established for the 2010-2012 biennium:

1. Increase membership by 5%
2. Raise the profile of the international aspect of Zonta
3. Explore technological methods for increasing financial and operational efficiencies to enhance service to the district membership
4. Promote professionalism, leadership development and team work
5. Enhance connection of Z and Golden Z Clubs with the District
6. Raise the profile of District 15
7. Promote fund raising efforts of clubs

I encourage members who have expertise in the issues of violence against women or women's health to help educate other Zontians by submitting articles for future newsletters. Members may also enhance our knowledge of any Zonta mission- oriented issue by submitting reviews of fiction or non-fiction books for the *Book Corner* segment of the newsletter. The deadline dates for such submissions will be noted in each newsletter. 